

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A ~~fusion partner protein~~ polypeptide of no more than 140 amino acids comprising a choline binding domain of SEQ ID NO:8, wherein a ~~and a heterologous promiscuous~~ T helper epitope from Tetanus toxin is inserted into said SEQ ID NO:8.
2. (Withdrawn) A fusion partner protein according to claim 1 wherein the choline binding domain is derived from the C terminus of LytA.
3. (Withdrawn) A fusion partner protein according to claim 2 wherein the C-LytA or derivatives comprises at least four repeats of any of SEQ ID NO: 1 to 6.
4. (Withdrawn) A fusion partner protein according to claim 1, wherein the choline binding domain is selected from the group of:
 - a) the C-terminal domain of LytA as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7;
 - b) the sequence of SEQ ID NO:8;
 - c) a peptide sequence comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 85% identity to any of SEQ ID NO:1 to 6; and
 - d) a peptide sequence comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 15, 20, 30, 40, 50 or 100 contiguous amino acids from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7 or SEQ ID NO:8.
5. (Currently amended) A fusion ~~partner~~ protein comprising a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 and further comprising a heterologous protein.
6. (Currently amended) A fusion protein as claimed in claim 5 wherein the heterologous protein is chemically conjugated to said polypeptide ~~the fusion partner~~.

7. (Currently amended) A fusion protein as claimed in claim 5 wherein the heterologous protein is derived from an organism selected from the following group: Human Immunodeficiency virus HIV-1, human herpes simplex viruses, cytomegalovirus, Rotavirus, Epstein Barr virus, Varicella Zoster Virus, hepatitis A virus, hepatitis C virus, hepatitis E virus, ~~from~~ Respiratory Syncytial virus, parainfluenza virus, measles virus, mumps virus, human papilloma viruses, flaviviruses, ~~and~~ Influenza virus, ~~from~~ Neisseria species spp, Moraxella species spp, Bordetella species spp; Mycobacterium species spp, Mycobacterium M. tuberculosis; Escherichia species spp, enterotoxigenic Escherichia E. coli; Salmonella species spp; Listeria species spp; Helicobacter species spp; Staphylococcus species spp, Staphylococcus S. aureus, Staphylococcus S. epidermidis; Borrelia species spp; Chlamydia species spp, Chlamydia C. trachomatis, Chlamydia C. pneumoniae; Plasmodium species spp, Plasmodium P. falciparum; Toxoplasma species spp, or Candida species spp.
8. (Currently amended) A fusion protein as claimed in claim 5 wherein the heterologous protein is selected from a tumour associated protein, an immunogenic fragment of a tumor associated protein, a ~~or~~ tissue specific protein, and an ~~or~~ immunogenic fragment of a tissue specific protein thereof.
9. (Currently amended) A fusion protein as claimed in claim 8 wherein the heterologous protein ~~or fragment thereof~~ is selected from MAGE 1, MAGE 3, MAGE 4, PRAME, BAGE, LAGE 1, LAGE 2, SAGE, HAGE, XAGE, PSA, PAP, PSCA, prostein, P501S, HASH2, Cripto, B726, NY-BR1.1, P510, MUC-1, Prostase, STEAP, tyrosinase, telomerase, survivin, CASB616, P53, and ~~or~~ her 2 neu, or an immunogenic fragment thereof.
10. (Previously presented) A fusion protein as claimed in claim 6 further comprising an affinity tag of at least 4 histidine residues.

11. (Currently amended) A nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide ~~protein~~ of claim 1.
12. (Original) An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence of claim 11.
13. (Previously presented) A host cell transformed with an expression vector of claim 12.
14. (Currently amended) An immunogenic composition comprising a fusion protein ~~protein~~ as claimed in claim 5 ~~claim 1~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
15. (Original) An immunogenic composition as claimed in claim 14 which additionally comprises a TH-1 inducing adjuvant.
16. (Original) An immunogenic composition as claimed in claim 15 in which the TH-1 inducing adjuvant is selected from the group of adjuvants comprising: 3D-MPL, QS21, a mixture of QS21 and cholesterol, a CpG oligonucleotide or a mixture of two or more said adjuvants.
17. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a immunogenic composition, comprising admixing the fusion protein of claim 6 with a suitable adjuvant, diluent or other pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
18. (Currently amended) A process for producing a polypeptide ~~fusion protein~~ of claim 1 comprising culturing a host cell comprising a vector encoding said polypeptide ~~fusion protein~~ under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide ~~fusion protein~~ and recovering the polypeptide ~~fusion protein~~ from the culture medium.
19. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a fusion protein ~~fusion protein~~ of claim 5 ~~claim 1~~.

20.-25. (Canceled).

- 26. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a patient suffering from cancer by administering a safe and effective amount of a composition according to claim 12.
- 27. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26 wherein said cancer is prostate cancer, colorectal cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer or melanoma.
- 28. (Withdrawn) An immunogenic composition comprising a DNA sequence as claimed in claim 11 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
- 29. (Withdrawn) A process for the preparation of an immunogenic composition, comprising admixing the fusion protein of a polynucleotide of claim 11 with a suitable adjuvant, diluent or other pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 30. (Withdrawn) A method of eliciting an immune response in a patient comprising administering an immunogenic composition of claim 14.
- 31. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 30, wherein said immune response is to be elicited by sequential administration of i) the said protein followed by a nucleic acid encoding said protein; or ii) a nucleic acid encoding said protein followed by said protein.
- 32. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 31 wherein said nucleic acid sequence is coated onto biodegradable beads or delivered via a particle bombardment approach.
- 33. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 31 wherein said protein is adjuvanted.

34. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 31 wherein the patient is suffering from or susceptible to cancer.
35. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 34 wherein said cancer is prostate cancer, colon cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer or melanoma.
36. (New) A polypeptide according to claim 1 where said T helper epitope is selected from the P2 and P30 epitopes of tetanus toxoid.
37. (New) A polypeptide according to claim 36 consisting of amino acid residues 5-133 of SEQ ID NO:27.
38. (New) A fusion protein comprising a polypeptide of claim 36 and a heterologous protein.